

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION COLUMN

EDITED BY THE W. C. T. U. UNION

FROM THE ANNUAL ADDRESS OF MRS. MARY T. LATHROP AT THE MICHIGAN W. C. T. U. CONVENTION

CONVENTION THIS WEEK

I have purposely up to this point avoided all allusion to any other body of temperance people. The W. C. T. U. trod their own unique path to all these conclusions, and were not their conclusions coming over illusions and delusions. We were discoverers and were on the spot where these facts were to be found. Moreover, we were desperately in earnest—not to run a show, moral reform, but to destroy

temperance educational law, so that henceforth in fourteen states the schoolhouse is arrayed against alcohol and old age. Concerning the "good creature" God made, we are to be dispelled by the unanswerable demonstration of science. Even where our cause has for the time been defeated, the voice has been startlingly close to the other side. God is in this reform, and it will not down.

BILL NATION

He speaks to Americans of their Fourth of July Privileges.

Fellow-citizens: One hundred and nine years ago, passed since our forefathers declared all men to be free and equal, and began to hold out inducements for the oppressed of other climes to come here and help us kill off the Indians.

It has been a great success. It has been thoroughly demonstrated to a drinking world that all men are free and equal to all other men, if not more so. We point with pride today to our broad lands, our luxuriant national crops, and our countrymen, the millions. We have only a few more Indians to wipe out, and then the oppressed foreigner will have it all his own way.

The men who declared themselves free and independent 109 years ago are now no more. Lying to the great nervous system today is a red-hot campaign, they finally pinned away and died. As forefathers we can never succeed in supplying their place, and their untimely death has cast a pall over this otherwise joyous occasion.

Today, from ocean to ocean, American people, from the humid Atlantic to the misty Pacific, the mighty cannon thunders forth a nation's exultation, and the smaller cannon is booming in the hearts of the people. This is an annual holiday and great national jubilee.

We rejoice that the idea of freedom suggested itself to our forefathers. Otherwise we would all be in Canada today. Now only a part of us are there.

Let us not speak lightly of Canada, for some of our largest moneyed men are there. While we would not care to be a part of Canada, it is a good place to stroll into after banking hours, while the Board of Directors are in session.

One hundred and nine years ago the King of Great Britain made the great mistake of his life. I only regret that for us he made a better one. He had been overbearing toward the infant colony, the young men of America would have been drinking all night in England.

We could have fought the battles all over the globe and left our shoulder blades to bleach in any clime which we might select. Had the King listened a little toward the struggling settlements in America one hundred and nine years ago, he could have borne our navy to the other side of the globe.

But he decided to do differently, and today he must take the bitter consequences. Kings are not always right. They frequently get left. Of us, the young men of America have known personally, and with whom I have been thrown more or less, there are only four or five upon whose judgment I could rely during a great crisis.

That is the reason I very rarely go to a crowded head when I am in trouble.

I seek out some tender-hearted and unselfish pawnbroker and tell him all. There is one cloud, fellow-citizens, which is with my prophetic eye, just climbing the distant horizon of our national existence. Sooner or later it will darken the brightest day for us. Let it be the leprosy Chinaman or the great unlanded Mormon? I hear you ask. Is it the spoils system under which one-half of our people will always be happy and the other half accused? Is it the kindred, fire and burglar proof, worthless American drink pie which is now invading our shores? Is it the lawless, lawless, lawless New England rum which eat out the vitals of a stone quarry to back the next day's rum?

Al! no, fellow-citizens; a thousand times nay. It is this: If our republic form of government holds together for ninety-one years more, we will have to celebrate again and it makes my head ache to think of it. If the feeling of remorse which shows itself on the succeeding day after a centennial celebration becomes intensified with each succeeding century, I hope that on the day of July, 1976, I shall be out of town.

I cannot close this brief outline, fellow-citizens, without an earnest appeal to you all to be nobler and better men. Of course, if you are women, this will not be expected; but we can all be good citizens by that time, perhaps. I earnestly exhort all those who are the sound of my voice to be loyal and law-abiding. By all means be industrious. Do your duty for me, and I will do my duty for you. I will do my duty for you through life. I am convinced by what I have seen of its effects, that it is a good thing to be a citizen and to go about your duties joyously, and when the morning meal is prepared and all gathered about the festive board, to be a citizen and to go about your duties joyously, and when the morning meal is prepared and all gathered about the festive board, to be a citizen and to go about your duties joyously.

We are ready now for the direct answer to our questions:

The W. C. T. U. is not a political party, any more than we were when we worked in this state with the Republican party for the submission of constitutional prohibition and the temperance education law, passing resolutions of thanks for the work where it has stood for ten years, so far as principles and aims are concerned; the only difference being that the battle between us and the nation was not with it or turn deserts.

2. We are consistent in doing what we may, with the social and moral influence women possess, and we are those who can carry the struggle beyond where we can go.

One question still remains: Did we help to defeat the party retired from power last November?

I think our work for all the years has tended toward the defeat of any party that cannot or will not take the temperance question. We have labored incessantly to put not only the vice of drunkenness on the public mind, but the national sin which creates drunkenness. The boys gathered into the bands of Hope were being led by St. John last fall, and the men who got right on this great question, cannot travel long with political organizations that are "unhappily committed to regulation" instead of prohibition, and this has protected this crime, and think only of perverting it.

Every prayer, every leaflet, every address, every effort for the children, and those who thus aid it, share that defeat.

If you ask whether the passage of our resolution at St. Louis helped to the final result, and made it necessary to suffer the things to which I have alluded, I reply, no; that resolution did not weigh a feather in the final count. It was passed only twelve days before the national election, the papers were crowded with other things, and it scarcely came abroad until after the great contest had begun. Its action and its fruits belong to the future.

Two results were predicted as sure to follow our so-called party work. One was a serious "set back" to our work. We can reply, looking over the past winter, that our general work has received no serious perceptible check. Organization has gone on, and the past months have been characterized by great activity in our moral, evangelistic, and reform efforts. There has been no winter in ten years when the temperance question has not been as active as the just past. Several states have submitted the question of constitutional prohibition to the people, and nine states have passed the scientific

New England's Example.

Newville Union.

The last great triumph of New England, the most brilliant of all the achievements of the most remarkable people, was the temperance movement. No man can travel over New England, who is familiar with its history, without a sense of admiration. Compared to the countries of Europe, New England is yet in its infancy. The country is absolutely destitute, so far as natural advantages and the natural resources are concerned. When the settlers came, they found a hard, rigid climate, ice and snow lasting eight months in a year; a soil destitute of the properties to make it productive; a country without the raw material for manufacturing; no coal, no iron, no cotton, and without the facilities for wood growing. Where on those people today? They are competing with old England in lending money.

By railroad is to be built across the continent, they have the money to do it. If a great city is destroyed by fire, they have the money and will lend it. If a great city is destroyed by fire, they have the money and will lend it. If a great city is destroyed by fire, they have the money and will lend it.

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Putting a Husband To Good Use.

Newville Union.

A colored woman driving her husband's horse to a plow was in North Carolina on Walter Miller's farm. The woman and her husband had plowed about half an acre, and at the time of the accident the horse was pulling for a brief cessation of work. The sweat of the horse's face was visible, and the horse was pulling for a brief cessation of work. The sweat of the horse's face was visible, and the horse was pulling for a brief cessation of work.

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